VIETNAM

COURIE

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July 22 SUPPLEMENT 1968

MEMORANDUM

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE 1954 GENEVA AGREEMENTS ON VIET NAM

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S APPEAL

ON THE OCCASION OF JULY 20

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Kingdom of Cambodia.

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and still count to held on the pagestons. attempt to prolong the partition of our

In face of this grave situation, the people throughout our country must persevere with

stiffer determination in, and push up, their war of resistance against the U.S. aggressors, for national salvation. For independence, and freedom, our 31 million filococonstry-ence will resolutely vercome all hardships and make sacrifices, with the minds made up to fight and to win. The U.S. aggressors are being driven into a lighter corner, are we oding arriven into a lighter corner, are susstaining ever houver estbacks, and are at the end of their tether. I he armed forces and people throughout our country are holding the initiative and are keeping up the offen-sive, and the harder they light, the bigger their victories.

Our Southern comparises and lighters, consequence of the National Front for Libera line, will created by find the still more and and win yet more considerable successes. The still more considerable successes, and will will be successed and with yet more considerable successes, and will be successed to the still more and will be successed and will be successed and will be successed to the still be successed and will be successed to the still production, deplete the war of destruction by the company, stand resuly to thouse all his naw the words of the still be successed by the su Our Southern compatriots and fighters,

great front.
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great front.

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Dear fellow-countrymen and fighters,

Dear fellow-countrymen and fighters,

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decolopments in Viet Nam, with deep admiration for our compatriots and fighters.
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Our people are very heavie. Our line is
very sound. We have justice on our side.
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might of nation-wide unity and vincy the
sympathy and support of the whole prograstic mankind.
The U.S. imperialists will surely be

The U.S. imperialists will surely be

Our people will surely be victorious! Fellow-countrymen and fighters through-out the country, march forward with more mettle!



President HO CHI MINH

DIEN BIEN PHU - GENEVA

A LONG ROAD ...

DIEN BIEN PHU. Geneva. Fourteen years have elapsed. The Vietnamese people can, not without legitimate pride, look back upon the road they have travelled. travelled

Hardly had a decisive, nay mortal, blow been dealt to old colonialism when they had old colonialism when they had to face an even more ferocious, perfidious, and clearly more powerful neo-colonialism. For 14 years, the Victnamese people have not failed in their task: to all American designs and attempts, they have opposed stubborn and

victorious resistance. Yankee neo-colonialism has brought into play all kinds of skills, into play all kinds of skills, stratagems, weapons, including these prohibited by international law, sent to Vietnam its best generals, politicians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, counter-insurgenticians, and the most barbarous and the most barbarous methods and means have been used—all to no avail.

In order to fully appreciate
the Vietnamese people's
victories, one must go back
to the dark days of the first
years under the Diem regime.

(Continued base 2)

South Viet Nam

- ★ In 30 Minutes, the P.L.A.F. Put out of Action 200 G.I.s, Destroyed or Damaged 22 Aircraft, 25 Armoured Cars and 7 Cannons at Dau Tieng.
- * Trang Bang Region: 720 Enemy Soldiers Killed or Wounded, 37 Vehicles Destroyed, About 100 Firearms Seized.
- * 1,150 Enemy Troops Put out of Action North of Quang Tri Province and West of Thua Thien Province.
- 81 Aircraft Destroyed or Damaged after 3 P.L.A.F. Shellings of Da Nang and Nuoc Man Airfields. Page 8

PARIS TALKS' THIRTEENTH SESSION

THE 13th session of the official conversations between the representative of the D.R.V.N.
Government and the representative
of the U.S. Government was held in Paris on July 17.

Minister of State Xuan Thuy, slightly indisposed, did not attend the meeting. Ambassador Ha Van Lau, on his behalf, read his speech which, on the occasion of the 20th of July, was centered upon the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

The D.R.V.N. envoy laid stress on the fundamental principles of these Agreements, namely respect for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity Viet Nam. The American side has deliberately distorted the content of the agreements and narrowed it down to the question of "cessation of hostilities." The U.S. side only referred to the concrete provisions meant to settle immediate issues, leaving out or distorting the political substance of the agreements and their long-term principles concerning the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people. The Amer-ican-style "return to the Geneva Agreements" only means misrepre sentation of these agreements in order to continue sabotaging them, turn the provisional military demar-cation line into a permanent political and territorial boundary, perpetuate the division of Viet Nam, and trans-form South Viet Nam into a newtype colony and a military base of the U.S.

The Vietnamese chief negotiator made it plain that the U.S. had been bent on preventing the reunification of Viet Nam, after which the entire Vietnamese people keenly

aspire, and which is one of the fundamental objectives of the Geneva Agreements. Today when it is forced to speak of the reunification of Viet Nam, the U.S. stubbornly sticks to the so-called "Republic of Viet Nam" which it has created, and to its "North Viet Nam's aggression against South Viet Nam aggression against South Viet Nam" fabrication, and to the double talk that the U.S. "seeks to secure for the people of South Viet Nam the right of self-determination." This proves that the U.S. is still using the puppet administration as a tool for the U.S. aggression and for undermining the reunification of Viet Nam.

In fact, the U.S. government has been blatantly interfering in the internal affairs of the Vietnamese people, has provoked a war of ag-gression in Viet Nam and has been sabotaging the "independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial in-tegrity of Viet Nam" or, in a word, sabotaging the Geneva Agree-ments on Viet Nam in their entirety.

Mr. Xuan Thuy emphasized the correct attitude of the Vietnamese people and the P.R.V.N. governpeople and the D.R.V.N. govern-ment who have scrupulously imple-mented all provisions of the Geneva Agreements. Dismissing U.S. quibble that "it cannot be said who is the saboteur of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam although these agree-ments have been evidently violated," ments have been evidently violated, to confusing the aggressor and those who oppose aggressor and at slavwho oppose aggression and at slan-dering North Viet Nam as "aggres-sor" against South Viet Nam.

The D.R.V.N. chief negotiator declared that the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression is the fundamental spirit of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

"Since the United States has "Since the United States has come and committed aggression against Viet Nam," he stressed, "all patriotic Vietnamese have the right to oppose and fight the U.S. aggressors wherever they are on Vietnamese territory. It is the Viet-Vietnamese territory. It is the Vietnamese people's legitimate, sacred and inalienable fight to self-defence. One must not put on the same footing the Vietnamese people's undeniably just struggle against U.S. definition of the same formal policy of the U.S. government which has committed more than half a million troops and large units of its air force from across units of its air force from across the Pacific to a war of aggression against the South and to a war of destruction against the North.'

The Vietnamese Minister of State then referred to the great victories of the Vietnamese people in their valiant struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. He recalled the four points of the D.R.V.N. made public in April 1965 and the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and National Front for Liberation, and pointed out that these documents are a sound basis for the settlement of the Viet Nam question, consonant with the Vietnamese people's aspira-tions and the fundamental principles of the Geneva Agreements.

of the Geneva Agreements.

In the last part of his speech, Mr.
Xuan Thuy highlighted the widespread drive of the world's peoples on
the occasion of July 20 this year for
U.S. respect for the Geneva Agreements, an end to its aggressive war,
withdrawal of its troops and those of
its satellites from South Viet Nam,

and first of all an unconditional end to the bombing and all other acts of war in the whole territory of the D.R.V.N. so that the official conversations in Paris can progress favour-

ably.

After Ambassador Ha Van Lau
finished reading Minister Xuan Thuy's
speech, U.S. representative Averell
Harriman took the floor. He tried to
deny the U.S. systematic sabotage of
the 1934 Geneva Agreements on Viet
Nam and continued to slanderously
charge the D.R.V.N. with undermining them. Reviewing the situation of
the situation of ing them. Reviewing the situation of the conversations during the past two months, he impudently claimed that the U.S. had put forth many "posi-tive proposals" to achieve peace, that the U.S. had exercised "restraint," while the D.R.V.N. side persisted in its "absurd" demand for an uncondiits "absurd" demand for an uncondi-tional end to the bombing and other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. He continued accusing North Viet Nam of use of "violence" to "seize hold of South Viet Nam," and of "violating the Geneva Agreements on Laos." In conclusion, he reiterated the backneyed U.S. contention that it would stop bombing North Viet Nam at "an appropriate time" and under "appro-

Ambassador Ha Van Lau exposed the absurdity of the U.S. views on the 1054 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, on the situation in Viet Nam during the last 14 years, and on the Paris talks which have been dragging on for more than two months. He once again demanded that the U.S. stop unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N. so that the talks could soon switch over to other problems of concern to the two

DIEN BIEN PHU — GENEVA

(Continued from page 1)

The Vietnamese Resistance's armed forces having been regrouped in the North, the South Vietnamese people found themselves bare-handed in face of a powerfullyequipped enemy, bent on taking his revenge and shrinking from no crimes. How many patriots how many ordinary people, men and women, young and old, fell in the course of those dark years! By the hundred ousands they were tortured death, made away with in the depth of prison cells, massacred en masse. Those few years of "peace" took a heavier toll from the Vietnamese people than any war.

It was in order to safeguard peace in reconquered inde-pendence that the Vietnamese people had accepted clauses of the Ge Agreements; it was in order to maintain peace in pro-mised freedom that the South Vietnamese people had for several years willingly bare-handed. It was also in order to save peace, a peace directly bound to the safeguarding of national indecondence, that they have taken up arms for self-defence.

The struggle waged by the Vietnamese people during these last 14 years has gradually stripped Yankee neo-colonialism of all its flashy tinsels. All the flashy tinsels. All the Washington men's discourses freedom, peace, and

American generosity have collapsed like punctured bal-loons. All their best military loons. All their best military and political strategies and tactics, all their most per-fidious manoeuvres have come to grief. Yankee imperialism has unveiled to all its true nature, that of a rapacious, aggressive, ferocious rialism, that of a colonialism which surpasses in barbarity everything known before. The myth of a super-impe-

rialism with unlimited finan-cial and military potential, before which all the weak-lings of this world should resign themselves to bending their heads, has vanished: the colossus is proved to be afflicted with incurable failings when confronted with a neo-colonialism -against the peoples seeking to liberate themselves are un-veiled in all their wickedness, but also in all their weak nesses. In the outposts of the socialist world, in the frontline of the national liberation movement, thanks to their own efforts and vast and effective international solidarity, the Vietnamese people, from North to South, are from North to South, are keeping in check, and inflicting crushing defeats on, an imperialism which many until now have believed

invincible. The Vietnamese people may say to themselves that they have not only victoriously defended their independence and freedom, but also entirely fulfilled their interactions duties. international dutie s.

to ashes all the efforts exerted by the Vietnamese people to build socialism, so as to serve a warning to all countries of the Third World desirous of taking this path. One should see with what technical and material mean socialism took its start in the D.R.V.N., one should see the apparent frailty of the mate-rial and technical bases which rial and technical bases which the Vietnamese people have built after ten years of efforts and with which they are confronting American power, in order to understand the scope of Washington's defeat. That in North Viet Nam rice should cost the same price as it did before the American attacks started, that schools and colleges should count more students than before, that scientific research and artistic creation should blossom more than ever - all this constitutes for the American Air Force, the

Pentagon's magic arm, the most crushing defeat it has ever sustained. To what extent the socialist regime could prove its vigour and the American air force its impotence, more than three years of air escalation against the D.R.V.N. are ample evidence.

... AN UNSWERVING COURSE

TO a colossal war machine To a colossal war machine, a ferocious and perfi-dious imperialist and neo-colonialist policy, the Vietnamese people, from North to South, have opposed their calm courage, resource-fulness, age-old patriotism. In particular, they have op-

YANKEE imperialism had also wanted to reduce posed to them a correct military and political line, the same which had led them from the first skirmishes in 1940 against the French and the Japanese, to Dien Bien Phu. The Vietnamese leaders and fighters have benefited from the lessons of the October Revolution, the Chinese Revolution, and the liberation struggles waged by other peoples. On their na-tional soil, under specific circumstances, and it themselves on their revolutionary experiences, the Vietnamese people have brought into play an original political and military line and appropriate forms of struggle, adapted to each particular stage and each particular

That independent, correct political and military line has permitted all social strata, all patriots and democrats to and partnots and democrats to participate to the fighting, and made it possible for an entire people to summon all their creative energy, all their human qualities; it has also received the full approval and support of all progressive

There lies the major reason for Viet Nam's victories.

At each stage of that long and hard struggle, President Ho Chi Minh's voice has resounded, rallying forces and showing the way to follow. Nothing is more precious

than independence and free-dom. Those words of his must be understood literally. No fallacious promise of peace, aid, however generous, can divert the Vietnamese people from their struggle, so long as their fundamental national rights are not re-spected. While Mr Harriman

UP TO JULY 17

3,043 U.S. gircraft were downed in North Viet Nam

puts forward his peace pro-posals in Paris, Mr Clifford promises hundreds of thou-sands of M. 16 rifles. While Mr Freeman vaunts the IR8 rice strain which is supposed to give fabulous yields, Ge-neral Abrams sends his B.528 right up to the outskirts of Saigon. All this serves no purpose. Peace, genuine peace, come only if national ependence is ensured to Vietnamese people.

ENEVA 1954. The Vietnamese people's fun-damental national damental national rights were recognized: independence, sovereighty, unity, territorial integrity. Peace was immediately restored. Mr Johnson claims that he is working for seven while for the control of the control o Mr Johnson claims that he is working for peace while demanding that the Vietnam-ese people acknowledge the Americans' right to interfere in their internal affairs. This means that he understands means that he understands nothing to Vietnamese real-ities, and keeps many an illusion on American omnipo-tence. Escalation or war: the choice is up to the men in ce is up to the men in Washington. As for the Vietnamese people, they have charted their own course.

VIET NAM COURIER

THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

N our country, which is progressing from a back-ward agricultural economy to socialism without passing through the stage of capi-talist development and which has so far experienced over 25 years of war, great em-phasis is laid on science and technique in general, and their dissemination among the masses in particular. In con-nection with the latter problem, the Political Report of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Worker's Party to the Party's Third Congress in 1960 said explicitly that "we must push forward the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge among

technique. " in which millions

The Viet Nam Association The Viet Nam Association for the Dissemination of Science and Technique was founded in 1963. It has baselevel branches in agricultural cooperatives and a membership of 130,000. It is an organisation ralling all people who deem it their duty to disseminate science and technique among the masses. It popularizes knowledge, gives encouragement and guidance to the people in the study and application of science and technique, and participates in summing up their experiences. Its activities are closely coordinated with those of spe-

techniques. Batches after batches of specialized workers are trained in courses organ-ised locally by the Association for the Dissemination of Science and Technique in addition to those opened by State services. Agricultural technique is an integral part of the curriculum in elementary and secondary (general education) school and in complementary courses held in the rural areas. Each agricultural co-operative has experimental plots in which new techniques are tried out and strives to reach the annual output of 5-10 tons of paddy per hectare, practical results being the best way to win co-op members over to new techniques. Vis-

riences among various locali-

ties are a great stimulus to

emulation movements in pro-duction and building a new

Rewards both material and

moral are given to indivi-duals and collectives for their

bold application of science and technique.

The popularization of science and technique in North Viet Nam is surging forward with the impetus of

a movement of popular education and complementary

IMPORTANT COVERNMENT MOVE: GRANTS FOR ALL STUDENTS AS FROM NEXT SCHOOL-YEAR

HE Council of Ministers of the D.R.V.N. has just approved a new regulation granting to students of universities, colleges and intermediate vocational schools as from the academic year 1968-1969 scholarships whose value is enough to keep them up during their training.

The decision rejoices not only the recipients and their parents but also the whole people, especially the youth. In the height of the war, this is a convincing proof of the solicitude of the Party and Government for the youth and reflects the judicious line of coupling the struggle against U.S aggression, for national salvation, with the building of socialism

patriotic movement for good

sanitation and hygiene, no epidemic has broken out du-ring these three years of war.

Contagious diseases have greatly declined: for typhoid fever, there were 13.5 cases for every 100,000 inhabitants

in 1962; 4.03 cases in 1966 and 1,68 cases in 1967; for

diphteria: there were 9.8 cases

for every 100,000 inhabitants in 1962 and 0.4 case in 1967. Superstitions and harmful

difficult to ensure the supply of adequate amounts of chemical fertilizers: natural fertilizers SCIENCE AND TECHNIQUE IN THE are then used to the utmost. Livestock breeding, especially the raising of pigs, receives great attention and supplies an ever greater amount of manure. The growing of NORTH VIETNAMESE COUNTRYSIDE plants supplying green manu-re is popularized: azolla pinnata, sesbania, clotaria, etc. Other sources of fertilizers

are: mud, alluvium, night soil,

habits are also dying out. Another example : on the basis of the new production rela-tions which enable big invest-HE penetration of science ments in terms of manpower and material and financial re-sources, the rising scientific and technical standard of the and technique into the masses has become an effective weapon in our people's resistance to American rural masses has contributed to the building within a relatively short time of an tion, and a powerful lever in their building of socialism.

extensive water conservancy extensive water conservancy network, ensuring irrigation for 80% of the cultivated areas, the re-arranging of irre-gularly laid-out fields, divid-ed into innumerable tiny plots, into fields with regular shapes, provided with canals and roads, which makes it easier to plough, harrow, irrigate and drain, and to rear fish and over which traffic flows unimpeded.

Thanks to those technical measures, important progress has been recorded in the midst of war in the intensive culti crops: sweet potatoes, maize, etc. In 1965, only 640 co-operatives, 162 villages and 7 districts recorded 5 tons of paddy per hectare (as against 1.3 tons under the feudal and colonial regime); in 1967, the same result was achieved by same result was achieved by 2,500 cooperatives, 865 villages, 30 districts, and two provinces. Big strides forward have been made in livestock breeding, fish-rearing, market-gardening, industrial crop

raising. The gradual rise in the peo-ple's scientific and technical level has made possible an ever wider use of improved tools and machines, which lighten work and raise output, so that enough human resources are available for the rural areas to increase production, ensure local defence work, and at the same time supply manpewer to national defence, transport and com-munications, industry and munications, industry a other branches of activity.

Parallel to the dissemination and application of science and technique and the development of agricultural pro-duction, North Viet Nam's countryside has undergone great changes, internally and externally. The road network develops rapidly. Dwelling hou-ses are better aired and more

News

important branches of the Ministry of Heavy Industry such as electric power, coal mining, chemicals, fulfilled from 50 to 60 per cent their yearly plan. A number of enterprises exceeded 60 per cent and some up to per cent.
The sector of capital con-

struction in heavy industry fulfilled the annual plan with 58 per cent.

• In the first half of 1968, the total gross value of enterprises run by the Ministry of Light Industry was 57 per cent of the yearly plan.

 In the first half of 1968, the total gross value of re-gional industry rose between 4 and 71 per cent compared with the corresponding period of 1967. These ratios were respectively 13, 42, 54 and 71 per cent for the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Nghe An lying between the 17th and 20th parallels, constantly raided with greater violence than before U.S. President's announcement of "limited bombing" of North Viet

An exhibition of works created by South Vietnamese writers and artists after the Spring 1968 general offensive and concerted uprisings and dedicated to the North Viet Nam people recently opened in Hanoi.

These bumbs are not rare in North Viet Nam's countryside

technique the property of the cialized departments of the toiling people, give a great impetus to the movement for technical improvement, inno-vations and inventions among the masses, mobilize the immense strength of the masses and make them participate in scientific development and building."

TO MAKE SCIENCE AND TECHNIQUE PENETRATE

THE dissemination of science and technique is considered a duty for all people with scientific knowledge and experience in knowledge and experience in production work. Unlike their counterparts in the former regime, outstanding intellec-tuals and workers no longer keep their knowledge to them-selves. Men of learning impart what they know to people of lesser education, or ex-change it with their peers. Specialized agencies at central or provincial level send thousands of cadres to rural areas to popularize techniques and give guidance in produc-tion work. This is in addition to the increasing numbers of technical cadres working in each locality. Such organisa-tions as the Federation of Trade Unions, the Viet Nam abour Vouth Union, the Viet launched mass movements of

exhibitions, and such artistic forms as poetry, folk songs, plays, popular operas, etc. are used to this end. Like factories, many agricultural co-operatives have their own small libraries, and readings of scientific and technical publications are regularly held in the production brigades Radio broadcasts from central and provincial stations and in formation-and-culture teams

DEEP INTO THE MASSES in villages and hamlets pay great attention to the appli-cation of science and technique in production work and daily life. District mobile projection teams are entrusted with the task of familiarizing the peo-ple with scientific documen-taries likely to have practical effects on production, the fighting against U.S. aggres-sion, and daily life. The Asso-ciation for the Dissemination of Science and Technique has organised propaganda teams whose task it is to put up exhibitions and at the same exhibitions and at the same time open training courses on special subjects; with the co-operation of the Association's grass-roots organisations, they urge the people to learn from the courses and guide them in putting the lessons into prac-tice. Each farming season sees thousands of people in march on science and each district learning

education and complementary training in science and technique." People of all walks of life—youth, women, and even children and old folks—are cagerly learning and applying science and tech-nique, being aware that with-out these it is impossible to develop production and increase the countr's econo-mic and military potential. State and mass organisations. Mass media such as news papers, magazines, books radio broadcasts, films, slides SCIENCE AND TECHNIQUE TO SERVE THE PEOPLE'S PRODUCTION WORK, THE FIGHTING AND DAILY

DANG MINH TRU

Vice-president of the Viet Nam Association for

the Dissemination of Science and Technique

LIFE N North Viet Nam science and technique have con-tributed to overcoming difficulties sprung from the backward agricultural economy and wartime conditions.

They serve efficaciously production work, the struggle against U.S. aggression and the building of a new way of life, bringing about great changes in the rural areas.

Rice, the main crop, is sown at the appropriate time and subjected to intensive cultivation: careful ploughing. harrowing and weeding, doing away with insects and pests; selection of high-yield strains well adapted to the soil and climate of each region; development of the water conserv-ancy network, ensuring good irrigation and drainage to ever greater areas; rational use of all sources of manure, with a all sources of manure, with a view to both raising output and improving the soil.

Let's take for instance the estion of manure. Because the war, it has become

VIET NAM ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL, DEMOCRATIC AND PEACE FORCES REJECTS U.S. DISTORTIONS AT PARIS TALKS

The Viet Nam Alliance of National ne viet Nam Attance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, a broad political front born in the midst of the struggle of South Viet Nam's urban people for independence, peace, democracy and neutrality issued on July 11, 1968 a statement disposing of U.S. contentions at the D.R.V.N.— U.S.A. official conversations in Paris.

We give below large excerpts of the

I. ON THE U.S. CLAIM THAT IT HAS COME TO SOUTH VIET NAM "TO DEFEND FREEDOM'

AS any democratic liberty been enforced in South Viet Nam since the U.S. created the Ngo Dinh Diem nepotic administration

The most elementary democratic freedoms recorded in all constitutions including the American constitution, including the American constitution, such as the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, organization, belief, movement, etc.. have never been put into practice in South Viet Nam. The South Vietnamese people under the Saigon regime have been enjoying just one "freedom," that of being repressed, persecuted and massacred, plundered and depraved.

The press has the "freedom" to publish reports from the "govern-ment" and circulars of the informafull reports from the countries in the "free world."

Besides the machine of censorship and other administrative measures, the puppet administration resorts to many other methods to suppress all editors of newspapers and journalists who, out of professional scrupulous-ness, refuse to play the odious role of pen-servants, police thugs or C.I.A. men in the press circles.

With regard to the freedom of belief, the world has been many times shocked by the self-immolation of many monks, nuns and other Buddhist believers who accepted such sacri-fices to denounce the South Viet Nam regime's suppression of the freedom of creed. The persistent struggle wag-ed by Buddhist beli-vers since 1963 which culminated in the bloody days of 1966, is an eloquent verdict against the policies of the South Viet Nam puppet "governments" from Ngo Dinh Diem to Tran Van Huong and

The South Viet Nam people have no law to protect their property and their lives. In South Viet Nam, virtually every official can take the law in his hand. From secret agents to army security and C.I.A. men, any one is free to arrest, detain, torture or kill people openly or secret-ly, repress them either by police force or by the agency of gangs of hooligans labelled as political factions

Intellectuals are choking under the South Viet Nam regime. From the death in Jail of Professor. But the Professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and personal professor was the New York of Professor and Professor was the New York of Professor was the rmination, for peace and neu-

More ironically still, while Johnson is paying lip service to peace and negotiations, in South Viet Nam the slogans "peace" and "neutrality" slogans "peace" and "neutrality

What the U.S. and the puppets call by the most beautiful names have only brought to the South Viet Nam people the most appalling ordeals. The "strategic hamlets," ordeals. The "strategic hamlets, "remained" new life hamlets "after the word of the property o graves of their dear ones for those camps surrounded by barbed-wire entanglements, walls and moats under the signboard of "camps of refugees from Communism."

It is clear that the South Vietand the countryside to the towns, all hate the yoke of the U.S. and the puppet clique of traitors. They have all clearly realized traitors. They have all clearly realized that all the governments in Saigon, whether "military" or "civilian," and installed by the U.S. through coups d'etat or through rigged elections, are but creatures of the U.S. and are all corrupt and despotic.

Does the U.S. defend the freedom of the Vietnamese people? Or does it merely defend these tyrannical puppet regimes' freedom to suppress and terrorize, and, through these regimes, its own freedom to commit aggression in South Viet Nam?

2. ON THE ASSERTION THAT THE "U.S. IS DEFENDING THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FROM THE THREAT OF COMMUNIST AGGRESSION "

THE U.S. has been spreading the slanderous charge of "North Victnamese aggression" as a protext for its armed intervention and aggression in South Viet Nam and, at the current talks in Paris, to demand "reciprocity" and "mutual de-escalation."

This accusation is entirely ground-less, both de jure and de facto: - Facts have clearly shown that it

the U.S. that has sabotaged the Geneva Agreements with the inten-tion of replacing the French colo-nialists and grabbing South Viet Nam

through a neo-colonialist aggression. through a neo-colonialist aggression.

— Legally speaking; the U.S. is the foreign aggressor. It cannot be put on a par with the North Vietnamese people and the D.R.V.N. Government who are kith and kin of the South Vietnamese people, and with these people of the same country, the same nation.

one and the Vietnamese nation is one. The Vietnamese people, whether in the North or in the South, have the same blood in their value. It is irrefutable that Viet Nam is are descended from the same ances-

Since the U.S. is committing an aggression against South Viet Nam and waging a war of destruction against North Viet Nam, our people in both zones must side with one in both zones must side with one another to resist the enemy of fine nation. It is the duty, and also the right, of the Vietnamese people, whether in the South or in the North. And, fighting the enemy in the South or in the North, a Vietnamese citizen is doing it in his own country, which is his sacred duty toward his Fatherland. his Fatherland.

Citizens of one country have the right to support, and volunteer to join in, the just struggle waged by the people of another country. A fortiori, it is within the right of the people of the same country to fight their enemy on their own territory. Vietnamese in the South have the right to join in the fight in the North, and vice versa.

For this reason, the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces fully endorses the position of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. as made clear in its statement on June 10, 1968: "In the liberation of the South, the South Vietnamese people, relying mainly on their own forces, have the right to receive all-round assistance from their northern brothers. The United States has been committing aggress-ion against South Viet Nam. It ion against South Viet Nam. It must stop this aggression. The United States has been mounting bombing raids against North Viet Nam and encroaching upon the independence and sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. It must stop these acts of war without any condition whatsoever. It is still less entire the property of the still less entire titled to demand, under cover of "reciprocity," that the Vietnamese people stop fighting against the

aggressor. The struggle in self-defence of the South Vietnamese people is a just one. The right of the South Vietnamese people to self-determination is a sacred, inalienable right. The South Vietnamese people have

and to choose for themselves

ON THE CONTENTION THAT THE U.S. HAS COME TO VIET NAM AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE "REPUB-LIC OF VIET NAM," AND TO HONOUR THE "COMMITMENTS" THE U.S. HAS TAKEN TO THIS GOVERNMENT

HE South Vietnamese people have seen clearly that the Saigon governments, set up in whatever form and by whatever means, are products of the U.S. and depend on U.S. dollars and weapons for their existence, that their life or death are existence, that their life or death are entirely decided by the U.S., that their existence fully contravenes the spirit and provisions of the Geneva Agreements. The formation of such governments is an illegal act.

governments is an inegal act.

The U.S. has staged an "election" firce in order to supply these governments with a "constitutional" figleaf and a "legal" value. But the world public opinion are well aware that these elections were cooked and carried out by means of persecution and frand. What value does the "request" of such a government beginning to the end?

As to the U.S. "commitments" As to the U.S. "commitments", they also have no value except that of a brazen and clumsy pece of deception since they were made to a lackey administration which was created by the U.S. itself, has no legal value and is abhorred by the entire people. In taking "commitments" to a henchman, the U.S. mitments" to a henchman, the U.S. has taken "commitments" to itself. "commitments" are fully

B ASING itself on the above facts, the Viet Nam Alliance of Na-tional, Democratic and Peace Forces categorically rejects the U.S. claims and considers them perfidious, absurd and devoid of any value. The U.S. has no right to base itself on these to set absurd conditions of "reciprocity" and "mutual de-esca-lation" for the cessation of its bombings in North Viet Nam, conditions whose ulterior motive it is to wreck

The Viet Nam Alliance of National, Dimocratic and Peace Forces also agrees that if the Paris talks have not produced any result after more than two months, that is entirely due to the lack of goodwill on the part

circumstances, international laws and conventions - from the U.S. Charter to the Geneva Agreements on Indo-China-do not warrant U.S.
use of its forces to settle the Viet Nam problem.

The only nation that is now "imposing its will upon another by force" is the United States. To replace the French old colonialism with ils neo-colonialism, the U.S. is continuing the French colon-

nation had "imposed its will" upon the French people "by force"? Whatever its sophisms may its actions that the highest

ialist aggression. The U.S. sent

its military forces to Viet Nam and supplied dollars

and weatons to the French

colonialists' dirty war. Lei

the U.S. answer whether this

was because the Vietnamese

A CRUMBLING STRUCTURE THE general offensives and upris-ings of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people have dealt mortal blows at the puppet structure which the U.S. aggressors

T is not by accident that U.S. ambassador Bunker when listing on February 18, 1968 the seven main tasks of the U.S.—puppets in Saigon insisted on the need of reor-

ganizing the puppet power

structure which the U.S. aggressors had taken so much pains to set up. The crumbling of the pupper administrative apparatus at the grass-roots is evidenced by the destruction by whole segments of the system of "strategic hamlets" and the organs of coercion in hamlets, villages and street districts. According to Giai Phong Press Agency, during the first drive of the general offensives and widespread uprisings of the South Viet Nam armed forces and South Viet Nam armed forces and people (February 1658) two-thirds of the "strategic hamlets" were swept away. Later, in their new drive of offensives launched in early May this year, the people's forces wiped out the major part of the remaining "strategic hamlets." The "village councils" have simply disappeared out the property of the people of the p The "civil guards," mintta, police and secret agents as well as "rural pacification" teams—which constitute the military mainstay of the puppet regime at its grass-roots level—have been either eliminated,

selves up. The puppet administration at the district and province level has also been disrupted. Following the multiple and repeated attacks by the revolutionary armed forces on hundreds of cities and district towns, the puppet administration collapsed in a series of provinces and districts. In Thua Thien province, of the 3,000 civil servants of the puppet administration, only 150 remain. In many other provinces, the puppet machine just rebuilt was struck new blows and dislocated. The police which plays a particularly important role in the protection of the regime, has also suffered heavy losses. In

disbanded or have given them-

SAIGON PUPPET REGIME UNDER THE IMPACT OF POPULAR ATTACKS

Saigon, last May more than 1,000 policemen most notorious for their

cruelty were made away with. Wherever they rose up, the population tried hard to destroy everything connected with the administrative set-up of the puppets: records, identification papers, family registers... In a word, all documents helping the puppet administration to hold its sway over the people, were committed to fire.

At its top echelon, the puppet regime is now more shaky than ever. The "government" offices have been the main targets of the people's attacks, by the infantry as well as the artillery of the P.L.A.F.

In fact, the "presidential palace" of Nguyen Van Thieu, the "Pre-mier's Office" and the offices of other nerve centres of the puppets have been raided again and a These strikes have paralysed Nguyen Van Loc cabinet to such an extent that the Americans had to create a so-called "War Victims Relief Committee" which actually ran the affairs of the "government."
The two "chambers" of the Saigon regime, the "Senate" and the "House of Representatives" which the Americans had set up as a facade to the puppet regime, have been unable to hold in the last four months any session with a some-what "respectable" attendance.

> TRAITOROUS POLICY LAID BARE

HE Saigon puppet regime has fully shown its impotence in front of the offensives and "it can defend neither its armed forces nor itself." On April 26, puppet President Nguyen Van Thieu

claimed that "the Viet Cong (the N.F.L.) had not yet enough strength N.F.L.) had not yet enough strength to launch a new major offensive against the clites. "Iren days later the P.L.A.," En days later the P.L.A. Salgon itself, touching off a new drive of general offensives and widespread uprisings. Newsweek, in its issue of early June, came to the conclusion that the Saigon administration is facing the danger of losing control even over its "capital."

A bitter political failure of the U.S. aggressors lies in the laying bare of the traitorous nature of the Saigon regime. Thieu and Ky have stopped at no methods, however barbarous, to retaliate on the people. They have asked the Americans to bombard the cities, massacre the population, and even to use gas against old people, women and children. U.S. bombs and shells have reduced to ashes 27,000 houses and rendered home-less 200,000 people and forced them into concentration camps disguised as "relief centres."

As a result, the puppet adminis-tration is now more isolated than ever. Voice of America in a broadcast on February 6 quoted Senator Edward Kennedy as remark-ing after a visit to Saigon that the South Viet Nam people is com-pletely "indifferent to the govern-ment." More than that. The South Vietnamese, rallying around the N.F.L. and the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, have been waging a grim and determined struggle against the Yankee aggres-sors and their lackeys. The front for national salvation has broaden. ed to such an extent that the Thieu-Ky clique has found a "Viet Cong" in every Saigonese, as was noted in a Reuter dispatch from South Viet Nam.

spirit and determination of the people of the D.R.V.N.

"We of the anti-war movement in the U.S. have demanded the ces-sation of the bombing and with-

drawal of all American troops, planes and weapons from Viet Nam, and we shall continue to make these demands

until there is success. The Americans

are coming to see that the Viet-namese have the right to decide

their future for themselves in their

own way, and that they are able and determined to exercise this right of national self-determination.

"We are deeply moved by the fact that even while the bombing of your country continues, even while your courageous people must daily scan the skies and remain alert to defend

their homes and drive out the attack-ers, you have extended your hand of friendship to the people of Amer-

"...We have seen how the Vietnamese

A BODY ROTTEN TO THE CORE

N direct proportion to the crumbl-ing of its foundations and the laying bare of its traitorous nalaying bare of its traitorous na-ture, the puppet regime is rottening quickly internally. This process is being accelerated by the fact that the U.S., seized with panic before the development of the situation, are contemplating replacing their lackeys.

Of the strifes that are splitting the ranks of the U.S. henchmen, the the ranks of the U.S. henchmen, the one between Thieu and Ky has come to the fore. These two avowed trai-tors are engaged in a blind and ruthless race to eliminate each other's supporters. Following a series of intrigues Thieu has taken the lead. After having dismissed one after another the commanders of army corps and province governors known corps and province governors known as the staunchest supporters of Ky, Thieu has kicked down the Nguyen Van Lee "Cabinet" which was under Ky's "influence," and finally chopped off Ky's right and left "hands" by sacking Le Nguyen Khang, military commander of Saigon, Nguyen Ngoe Loan, chief of the "national party and the state of the stat Saigon, and more recently, Nguyen Duc Thang, commander of the 4th Army Corps, former "Minister for Rural Pacification." It is time Thieu Rural Pacification." It is time Thieu was going to deprive Ky of his own powers. Thieu has literally thrown the gauntlet to Ky: either to give in and take a figurehead post or to resist and get the sack or even be killed! Of course, Ky has fought back and with all his forces. He has in fact directly attacked Thieu and commany by calling them a "nack" company by calling them a "pack of slaves" and threatened that he was ready "to wade through blood and fire to topple everything."

There are still other dissensions, namely between the Thieu-Ky clique and the other factions and even between the Americans on the one hand and their lackeys on the other.

Take, for instance, the case of Tran Van Huong, the new chief of the Saigon puppet government. For the time being he is working under Thieu's wings, but would he always remain loyal to his present master? One still remembers that Huong once swore never to serve in a cabinet commanded by Thien

There is also the case of Tran Van Don, a former general. He has ralli-ed some men of his choice in the soed some men of his choice in the so-called "popular front for national salvation," but whether this is in the interests of Thieu and Ky remains to be seen. Tran Van Don is known for his denunciation of the govern-ment "which does not let other

factions share power.' As for the conflict between Americans and lackeys, it is perfectly understandable since the lackeys are greatly afraid of being let down one day by their Vankee has latter have met with total defeat in their war of ageression.

ND to conclude, here is a quota-A ND to conclude, here is a quota-tion that may give a general insight into what is taking place among the ranks of the Sai-gon puppets:

"Internal strifes, injustices and embezzlements, a society turned topsyturyy by continuous upheavals law ignored by those who wield power, justice flouted by multiple pressures, such a situation has doomed the administration the administration to impotence... Embezzlement has given rise to innumerable injustices, rancours divisions, hatreds, suspicions, despairs, and angers vis-a-vis the administra-

"The author of that remark is none other than Tran Van Huong, chief of the Saigon puppet government, in a speech on the Saigon Radio on May 28 last.

Captured U.S. Airmen Handed Over in Hanoi

THREE American airmen captured over North Viet Nam and released by decision of the Viet Nam People's Army General Political Department were handed over in Department were handed over in Hanoi on July 19 to the representa-tives of the anti-war movement of the American people by the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People. They were:

Joe Victor Carpenter, Captain (U.S.A.F.), born 1931 in Kentucky, service number FR.60538, captured on February 15, 1968 in Quang Binh

James Frederick Low, major (U.S.A.F.), born 1925 in California, service number FR 23194, captured on December 16, 1967, in Ha Bac

on December 10, 1907, in Ha Bac province; and Fred Neale Thompson, major (U.S.A.F.), born 1936 in North Caro-lina, service number FR 75175, cap-tured on March 20, 1968 in Ha Tinh

Speaking on the occasion, Mrs Bui Thi Cam, member of the Secretariat of the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with the American People, said that the decision to release the three captured American pilots the three captured American pilots was "a new manifestation of the lenient and humanitarian policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and a very significant act at a moment when the U.S. government is intensifying its criminal war of aggression against the Vietnamese people." Vietnamese people."

Mrs Bui Thi Cam stressed:

The U.S. pilots captured in North

are willing to accept us as friends even at a time when the military forces of the U.S. Government are shamefully and wrongfully dropping bombs and firing shells at Vietnamese fields, cities, and hamlets. Viet Nam are criminals caught in the

act of committing serious crimes against the Vietnamese people. Yet they have been granted a humane treatment by the D.R.V.N. Govern-Addressing the three representatives of the American people's anti-war movement, Mrs Bui Thi Cam said: "On this occasion we request you to tell the American people that the Vietnamese people cherish peace, but

at the same time, they are firmly resolved to fight against aggression to defend their independence and freedom, and that they make a clear distinction between the American per distinction between the American peo-ple and the U.S. aggressors. We ask you to convey the Vietnamese peo-ple's greetings of miliant solidarity people in the U.S. who, for the honour of the United States and for peace, are struggling for the U.S. Government unconditional ending of the bombing of the Democratic Key U.S. and satellite troops from South U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, and termination of the war of aggression in Viet Nam.

Speaking on behalf of the American people's anti-war movement, Vernon Grizzard said: "We three Americans— Anne Scheer, Vernon Grizzard and Stewart Meacham — wish to express our sense of gratitude to President Ho Chi Minh and to the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with the American People for the experiences of this past week, during which we have gained new perceptions of the ica. You have released three pilots to us to escort them home. Nothing can more clearly show the strength of the Vietnamese people than this humanitarian act while the American government continues the war..." The three released American pilots then took turns in expressing their deep gratitude to the Vietnamese people, the D.R.V.N. Government and the Viet Nam People's Army,

for this humanitarian act as well as for the humane treatment they received through at the period of their detention. All of them said that they had many times observed the iron-like determination of the Vietnamese people for freedom, independ-

Aggression Is Highest **American** Principle

to impose its will upon another by force." Referring to the Viet Nam question, it said: "Abandonment of the South Vietnamese people would be inconsistent with American principles."

According to U.S. "prin-

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

ence recognizes that the war waged by the U.S. in Viet Nam is a development of various forms of intervention applied in Viet Nam before and after 1954, chiefly by creating the "government of the Republic of Viet Nam"

the Republic of Viet Nam" which is an instrument for foreign domination and military operations aimed at enslaving South Viet Nam, turning it into a new-type colony and springboard from which the U.S. extents its, operations to the North, and carving out a "separate state" from the rest of the Vietnamese nation.

"The conference declares

that such a war is an aggress-ion, a crime against the inde-pendence and existence of the

Vietnamese people, a means of oppression of a neo-colonial type, therefore the Vietnamese people, North and South, are entitled to act in self-defence.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF LAWYERS FOR VIET NAM CONDEMNS U.S. AGGRESSION

THE "World Conference of Lawyers for Viet Nam" opened in Grenoble (France) on July 7. It was attended by nearly. 150 lawyers, professors, and re-presentatives of the Inter-national Association of cratic Lawyers (IADL) and 40 lawyers' associat and 40 lawyers' associations from 40 countries. Also present were the delegation of the D.R.V.N. lawyers headed by Tran Cong Tuong, Secretary General of the Secretary General of the Viet Nam Lawyers' Associa tion and member of the Secretariat of the I.A.D.L., and the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation headed by Le Quang Chanh, member of the Front's Central Com-

Participating in the Con-ference were many famous lawyers from various socialist countries, Asian, African, West European and North European countries and the European countries and the United States, among them: Smiernow, President of the Higher Court, U.S.S.R.; J. Maillet, Dean of the Faculty of Law at Grenoble; Nordman, barrister at Paris Court, General Secretary of LADI . Pierre Lavigne professor at the Faculty of Law and Economics, Paris; Henri Rolin, State Secretary Belgium; Pritz, British lawyer; Khrisna Menon, ex-Minister of National Defence, India; B. Ledayet, Public Prosecutor of the Higher Court of Bamako (Mali); Richard Falk, professor Princeton University, U.S.A. Charles Chaumont, professor at Nancy University, France

In his opening speech, Maillet, Dean of the Grenoble Faculty, pointed out ence was to express solidar-ity with the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression. The Conference was to discuss problems was to discuss problems related to U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam, namely: U.S. aggression — a violation of international law; the struggle of the Vietnamese people in defence of their fundamen-tal rights; the right to self-determination of the South cal Program; the means and methods of war applied by the U.S. in Viet Nam which challenge international law the legal basis for the refusa participate in the U.S aggressive war.

At a plenary session of the

who had recently visited Viet Nam for an investigation of the legal aspect of the U.S. aggressive war, said that he had seen the positive aspect of the resistance of the Vietnamese people against the U.S. aggressors and the ne-cessity for the American people to oppose this war.

He stressed that this war was an unjust and immoral war conducted against a people who have never had any ill feeling toward the United States nor taken any action against her interests. Prof. Falk confirmed the

atrocity of the U.S. air war in Viet Nam despite the an-nouncement of "limited bombing" by the Johnson administration. He stressed that from the legal viewpoint the U.S. government had done its best to induce people to believe that there was no war of aggression in Viet Nam. In fact, it is a neo-colonialist war of the U.S. and a righteone war of regist. ance waged by the Vietnam

At the same plenary session, Belgian Professor J. Salmon deemed it necessary to protest energetically against the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam, solve the legal problem of this war, including the use by the U.S. of prohibited weapons such as napalm, toxic chemicals, the war of destruc-tion against the D.R.V.N. which is a crime of genocide committed by the Americans

Japanese professor Hase-gawa recalled the history of the struggle for independence and freedom out to he and freedom put up by the Vietnamese people for half a century and was of the opinion that justice-loving peo-ple in the world must condemn the cruel aggression of the U.S. and pay tribute to the Vietnamese people's heroic fighting.

DECLARATION AND APPEAL OF THE CONFERENCE

AFTER its sub-committees had discussed
concrete problems,
the World Conference of Lawyers for Viet Nam closed on
July 10, 1968 after having
unanimously adopted a declaration condemning U. S. aggression in Viet Nam and an

The declaration said among other things: "The Confer-

Iven's "17th Parallel"

Film Wins Prize THE film 17th Parallel by Dutch film-director Joris Ivens depicting the gallant struggle of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression has recently won the first prize of the French National Centre of Cinematography. 17th is widely shown in many countries.

"... The Confence hails the Political Programme of the National Front for Liberation and the main points of that programme, marking the democratic will for resistance in the prospect of total unity of the Viet-namese people.

"The Conference solemnly declares that the only means to restore the respect of inter-national law is recognition by the world and first by the U.S. aggressor, of the funda-mental national rights of the Vietnamese people.

"The Conference consider that the official talks, begun after President Johnson's speech on March 31, 1968, could not be based on some compromise affecting those fundamental rights.

"Especially, the Conference holds that the aggressor can-not put forth 'reciprocity' conditions to the cessation of his aggression against the D.R.V.N. In this respect, it calls upon all peace-loving governments, all peoples in the world and all lawyers to speed up their action for an

immediate and unconditional

end of bombings against the

In its appeal to the world's peoples, the Conference invited them to support the Vietnamese people's struggle till final victory and to demand from the U.S. government!:

r — An immediate and unconditional cessation of air and naval raids and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N.,

2 - Cessation of the war of aggression against South Viet Nam,

3 - Acceptance of the national self-determination principles in the settlement of the political future of South Viet Nam without foreign interference.

4 -Withdrawal of all troops the U.S. and its allies from South Viet Nam, 5 - Recognition of the N.F.L. as genuine represen-tative of the South Viet

Nam people in their struggle for liberation, 6 - Recognition of the great importance of the emergence of the Alliance of National, Democratic and

Viet Nam Committee For Solidarity With American People Issues Statement

The Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with the American People which was recently founded * with the aim of building up the friendship between the Vietnamese and American peoples and promoting mutual understanding between them has issued the following statement:

old history, has been an independent and unified nation. The history of Viet Nam is one of continual struggle against foreign invasion. That is why, love for peace, justice and freedom as well as respect for the independence and freedom of other nations have become traditional tenets of the Vietnamese people.

In the course of its history the United States has also put up valiant fights against foreign domination, for independence and freedom.

Though having thousands of miles between them and different customs and habits, the Vietnamese and American peoples can nevertheless symbathize with, and understand, each other on the strength of love for peace and freedom, and can together cultivate friendly relations on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

But, over the past 20 years or so, defying the But, over the past 20 years or 40, taylying the most fundamental principles in the relations among nations and states, the U.S. authorities have gone from blatant acts of intervention and aggression to a war against the Vietnamese poper. This is a large-scale and brutal war unparalleled by any colonial war in history. It has been condemned by many Americans as unjust, illegal and immoral.

sitegal and immoral.
Fully aware of their responsibility for the survival of the nation, the entire Vietnamese people have shood up to carry out a resistance of mational material production of the survival and the survival and

In the past few years, sensible, democratic-minded and progressive Americans have one after another voiced their protest and been opposing with growing force and in various ways the U.S. government's policy in Viet

The Vietnamese people, together with the world peoples, highly, value the American people's courageous actions against the U.S. war in Viet Nam. These continue the fine tra-

ditions, and ubhold the honour, of the United States and the legitimate rights of the American

The Vietnamere beable consider them a bre cious encouragement to their struggle for national liberation.

Braving all obstacles and difficulties, many Americans have visited Viet Nam many Americans have visited Viet Nam in our time, hus paining the way to better mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries. Representation of curvous of the two countries. Representation of curvous United States have had opportunities to meet and candidly exchange twiss on questions concerning the fate of the two peoples, and laid the foundations of plendial relations which can exist only between convades-in-arms pursuing the same thead and objective; pace and friend the same thead and objective; pace and friend.

In that spirit, the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with the American People has been founded to strengthen the existing friendly relations between the Vietnamese and American

On this occasion, the Viet Nam Committee for Solidarily with the American People conveys for Solidarity with the American People conveys to American friends its warmest greetings and wishes the organizations on the anti-war ment in the United States greater achievement in the struggle for an end to the war being conducted in Viel Nam by the U.S. government, for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and the wright for the Vielnames people to settle themlves their own affairs.

For their part, the Vietnamese people pledge For their part, the Vietnamese people plegge themselves not to shrink from any sacrifices and hardships and to fight resolutely against the aggressor still complete wictory. Only you doing can the peoples of Viet Nam and the United States make possible a strong development of their friendly relations and contribute to the world peoples' cause of peace.

The militant solidarity of the Vietnamese and American peoples will certainly achieve splendid

. See Viet Nam Courier, No 173.

THAI TROOPS. America's Worst Mercengries

A CCORDING to Western news agencies, the U.S. imperialists have decided to throw an additional 5,200 Thai mercenary troops into the South Viet Nam battle-field. Thus, the total of Thai soldiers serving as cannon-fodder for the U.S. aggressors in South Viet Nam would run to nearly 8.000.

As a matter of fact Thai

As a matter of fact Thai troops are America's worst mercenaries in the South Viet Nam battlefield. According to American reports, Washington has often complained about the fact that Thai show among the "allied" forces. Now it has to hire them for no other purpose than to increase the variety of satellite troops, hide its utter isolation and tone down the "Americanization" of the aggressive war in South this is a stop-gap measure as the U.S. is facing a growing serious shortage of man-power. The Thanom-Praphas clique, Thailand's top reac-1967 admitted that they had tionaries, on November had to chip in their troops in return for U.S. military aid under pressure from Wash-

At first, Thailand had about several hundred troops in South Viet Nam, including a small air and naval tingent, a transport unit and a number of infantrymen a number of infantrymen from the Queen's Cobra regi-ment, all placed under the command of Narong Kitti-kachorn, son of Thai Premier Thanom and son-in-law of Vice Premier Praphas Cha-

Being well aware that Thai troops are ineffective and no match for South Vietnamese

TO THE PEADER

We are aware that there is much room for improve ment in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more efficiently in future. guerillas, the Americans keep a keen eye on them and dare not let them go into independent actions

In more than a year of service with their American bosses, in spite of U.S. cover, Thai troops have bosses, in spite of U. S. cover, Thai troops have suffered heavy losses at the hands of the guerillas. On April 11, 1967, as they joined American G.I.'s in holding An Thach position, Phuor Chanh village, a whole Queen's Cobra platoon was wiped out by cuteflies of Two Phuce by guerillas of Tuy Phuoc district, Binh Dinh province, in a lightning attack which lasted only 5 minutes.

Narong admitted that on Narong admitted that on October 9, 1967, Thai troops were heavily engaged by the guerillas and losses were reported. The Bangkok Post Nov. 14, 1967 that on the night of October that on the night of October 10, 1967, the Queen's Cobra H.Q. came under a one-hour shelling. According to the Bangkok Post of December 3, 1967, the Thanom-Praphas admitted on November 14, 1967 that about a dozen Thai officers seriously wounded by guerilla mines were receiving medical care at Phra Mons Kut Klau Hospital and that many Thai troops had been killed by booby traps in South Viet Nam.

On the night of December 20, 1967, the armed forces and people of Bien Hoa attacked and completely wiped out a Oueen's Cobra company dug in in the Bau Nau stronghold, Phuoc Tho village, Nhon Trach district.

Being hard hit, Thai troops dare not venture out alone or camp out far from U.S. troops. Since the Tet general offer and widespread uprisings of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, they have elected to hole up and bar-ricade themselves behind their

American bosses Whether the Americans have their Thai confederates send to South Viet Nam, 5,200 more mercenaries, or 10 times as many, the blazing sea of the people's war wil

CHEMICALS AND B52'S USED AGAINST SOUTH VIET NAM PEOPLE

WHILE in Paris, the on July 7 of 5 tons of toxic thousands of bombs some tried to shift the blame for destroying Saigon and killing its people on to the South Viet Nam Liberation fighters, a U.S. News and World Report correspondent wrote on July 1, 1,68: "The fact is this: most of the damage inflicted on Saigon and suburbs actually has been done by South Vietnamese tanks and guns, U.S. hombers and rocket - armed helicopters." The Johnson administration cannot hush up or distort the truth and its crimes do no stop there.

The Guardian remarked on June 25, 1968, that the U.S. had been stepping up the use of toxic chemicals, already condemned by the world's peoples, and that from July 1068 to July 1060 to million gallons (45 million litres) would be used, or 1.5 times the quantity sprayed in 1967. Reuter correspondent Hollingworth disclosed on July 6 that in the first nine months of 1967 a kind of chemicalsin fact the cacodyllic acid stronger than any weedkiller had destroyed 965,006 acres (nearly 400,000 hectares) of

Parallel with toxic chemicals, poison gases have been used by the Yankees against the South Viet Nam people. According to a communiqué dated July 15 of the Committee to Denounce U.S. War Crimes in South Viet Nam. these chemicals and gases were recently sprayed in Hue. Saigon and other towns Most barbarous was the spraying

cropland.

Binh Hung, of Binh Thanh village, Cao Lanh district. Kien Phong province, 120km southwest of Saigon, before the bombing and rocketting by armed helicopters and war vessels. In its July 10 statement, the South Viet Nam Liberation Peasants' Association recalled that toxic chemicals had been used 26 times against many districts in Ben Tre province devastating nearly too oon bectares of cropland and seriously poisoning hundreds of women and children. The White House and the Pentagon claim

a that they have used only " weedkiller" and " tear gas" but on June 18, 1068, British M.P. Stephen Rose, a biochemist of London University reported before the House of Commons that he was in possession of convincing proofs that these products had killed at least 350 people in Viet Nam. If they were thrown in the form of hand granades into a narrow space, he said. the concentration would increase and rapidly reach deadly proportions; products were in fact hurled into undergrounds and huts in Viet Nam S Rose concluded that this was a sample of the so-called non-lethal weapons used as means of death.

The die-hard aggressive policy and the barbarity of the U.S. war in Viet Nam have also been bared by the use of B.52 strategic bombers. In May 1968, these planes flew 1,800 bombing missions over South Viet Nam. Around Saigon, they dropped tens of

times as near as 12 km from the centre of the city. AP admitted on July 11, 1068 that in the periphery of Saigon, the quantity of hombs released in 40 days equalled that dropped on South Viet Nam in the years 1962, 1963, 1964 put together. The N.F.L. branch of Ben Tre province denounced that its provincial capital had been heavily damaged: the market place and the Cao Dai Holy See were destroyed and goo dwelling houses of the believers were gutted by fire'. From the figures admitted and damages paid by the Ben Tre puppet authorities it is estimated that 4,132 houses had been destroyed and over 1,000 people killed or wounded by American bombs and shells. Other provinces around Saigon were also raided by B.52s. The people of Tra Vinh province will never forget the B.52 attack on May 8, 1968 causing 71 casualties among the inhabitants of 2 villages in Tra On district; on July 3 and s these hombers rained thousands of bombs on the villages along Dinh Doi river, 1 km from Can Long district capital, killing 47 people; they also mounted night attacks in the same province such as on the nights of May 20 and June 13 in Ngoc Kien dis-

The intensified use of toxic chemicals and gases and B.52 bombers against the South Vietnamese people once more give the lie to Johnson's "desire for peace" double

MILITARY **OPERATIONS**

(Continued from page 8)

The fuel depot at Nha Be, 13km south-southeast of Saigon, was pounded by P.L.A.F. guns on the night of July 8. 3 big tanks of petrol, a power station and a warehouse of chemical pro-ducts were gutted by the

In Trang Bang, 45km northwest of Saigon, the P.L.A.F. inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in many battles given between June 28 and July 3.

On the morning of June 28, they wiped out I puppet com-pany at Gia Loc, 10km north

of Trang Bang, and in the afternoon put out of action r American company together with 30 vehicles of a rescue party: 17 vehicles were de-stroyed and 117 firearms cap-tured by the P.L.A.F.

The following day, 3 Amer-ican battalions were intercepted for the whole day. The P.L.A.F. rained shells on the American forces in their night bivouac and put out of action 450 men.

When, after minor engagements in the following days, the enemy decided to withdraw on July 3, he received two heavy blows, one on Highway No I causing 180

American casualties, together with 24 armoured cars and lorries destroyed and 1 chopper downed, and the other near Trang Bang which put out of action 100 enemy soldiers.

The total losses of the

enemy in Trang Bang in that period ran to 720 men killed or wounded, 37 vehicles de stroyed, I chopper downed and over 100 firearms seized by the P.L.A.F.

Lai Khe, 45km north of Saigon, base of U.S. Division I, was stormed on the night of July 16 together with a position of U.S. Division of 6km south of Saigon. In the Mekong Delta, My

Tho town, 60km southw of Saigon, was bombarded by the P.L.A.F. on the night of July 11 and assaulted by their infantrymen who dis-lodged the enemy from two town quarters and punished many traitors and ruffians.

New Films trom Viet Nam

1 - Facts About Crimes of the U.S. Aggressors Against the Civilian Population in Viet Nam (5 reels - English)

2 - Victory in the Province of Tay Ninh (4 reels - English)

3 - The Western Lake (Hanoi) - 1 reel 16mm films available on hire (10/- a reel. plus postage) from

BRITISH COUNCIL FOR PEACE IN VIET NAM (BCPV)

10, Little Britain, London, E.C.1 Films for fund-raising - Films for peace

THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military **Operations**

DONG HA AND HIGHWAY Nog

N July 72. two U.S. battalions were intercepted at Lai An, 11km north of Dong Ha: about 100 Marines killed or wounded. The survivors' fled wounded. The survivors fled under an adverse artillery fire: 158 Yankees put out of action and 4 M.41 tanks burnt.

On July 9, 100 U.S. Marines were killed or wounded and 1st tank destroyed at 2 km from Con Tien base, near the demarcation line.

On July 11, I platoon of U.S. Marines and 100 G.I.'s were put_out of action in several engagements west of Highway No 9, between Tan Lam and Rao Quan.

On July 13, 2 tanks were destroyed and 1 U.S. Marine company wiped out on its way to Rao Quan from Hill 710 which defended the western flank of an outpost built near Ca Lu, a substitute for Khe Sanh base just evacuated.

To sum up, in Dong Ha region and along Highway No 9, from July 7 to 13, at least 500 Marines were killed or 'wounded and 7 M tanks destroyed or burnt. M.41

HUE AREA

FROM July 5 to 8, the guerillas and local troops of the highland west of Thua Thien province (with Hue as province capital) hammered at the enemy operating in locality.

South of Thua Thien, the U.S. and puppet troops took nearly 200 casualties and had 2 choppers downed in many engagements with the P.L.A.F. in the first ten days of July, the people's forces north of the province forces north of the province put out of action 500 enemy soldiers, downed 2 choppers and destroyed or damaged 7 heavy guns, thus bringing the total number of enemy casualties to 700 including 400 American.

DA NANG AND CENTRAL TRUNG BO

N the night of June 26 and 28, Da Nang airbase and Nucc Man helicopter park (some kilometres from Da Nang) were the targets of 3 violent bombardments by the P.L.A.F.

ments by the F.L.A.F.

The latest news released by Giai Phong Press Agency listed St U.S. aircraft destroyed or damaged, 192 G.L.s willed or wounded and many depots burnt. The same source disclosed that 52 choppers had been hit at Nuoc Man on June 28. In Quang with the control of the contro airbase on June 28. In Quang Mgai province, in the counter-attacks of the P.L.A.F. in the districts of Tu Nghia and Nghia Hanh against 6 bat-talions of U.S. Brigades tr and 106 and puppet Regi-ments 5 and 6, the energy suffered 770 casualties (includ-ing 200 American) and 6 choppers downed.

In Binh Dich province, a column of South Korean mercolumn of South Korean mer-cenaries was assaulted on July 12 and inflicted heavy casualties among whom the lieutenant-colonel command-ing Battalion 1, "Tiger" Battalion

SAIGON AND MEKONG DELTA

DAU TIENG base, 56km northwest of Saigon, was shelled on the night of July 4 by the P.L.A.F. who controlled the airfield and gun and armoured car and gun and armoured car parks after a 30 minutes' fierce battle: 200 G.I.s were killed or wounded, 22 air-craft, 25 M.113 amphibious carriers and 7 cannons de-stroyed or damaged, 37 casemates blown up. The commanders of Battalion 4, Regiment 22, U.S. Division 25 were killed.

(Continued page 7)

A FTER the fall of the two positions of Lang Van Dositions of Lang Van and Hung Hoa in the January and early February 1968, the Americans held with Ta Con, the main bare with an airstrip. Ta Con was named by the Americans "Khe Sanh base" as distinct from Hung Hoa or "Khe Sanh town."

Hill "689," located at 3 kilometres west southwest of Ta Con, formed with the adjacent Hills "845," "832," adjacent Hills "845," "832,"
"552" and "471" an are of
fortified strongholds defending
"Khe Sanh base." It. was
defended by a thousand Marines
with entrenchments made of
sand-bags and casemates deep aircraft showering their bombs on the U.S. positions them-selves? Panie-stricken, the strivitors jumped out of their entrenchments to escape the blazing jellied petrol only to be cut down by the P.L.A.F.

be cut down by the P.I.A.F.
Another and last attempt of
the Americans to withdraw to
HIII "55." was also thustred.
Having correctly anticipated
the enemy's plan, the P.I.A.F.
laid an ambush on their
retreat route, forcing the enemy
to withdraw after sustaining
heavy losses. The balance
after the property of the country
that the country of the country
of marcian bombs.
The first irreached its boat
of American bombs.

The fighting reached its peak

the flares dropped by enemy the flares dropped by enemy or gunships, "groups of P.L.A.F. sappers succeeded in cutting the barbed wire and defusing the mines, thus making a breach in the enemy defences without his knowing abreach in the enemy defences without his knowing are placed against the casemates and set of), sending the mates and set of), sending their occupants having the vagues idea, of making was so included of the way so in the casematical and that was so in the sagues of the case of th occupants having the vaguest idea of what was going on. The spearhead groups stormed the resistance pochets and blew up one bunker after another with plastic charges. Taking advantage of the disarray of the Americans who found themselves assailed right in their hide-outs, the P.L.A.F. pressed

BATTLE ACCOUNT FROM KHE SANH

CAPTURE OF HILL "689"

underground. Tracks had been built to allow the garrison to receive reinforcements from Ta Con or the neighbouring positions on Hills "832" and "552" time, the Americans had work time, the Americans had work do ut detailed firepower plans for the artillery and air force, a that Hill "859" looked perfectly immune to any infantry attack by the P.L.A.F.

However, the attack did come However, the attack did come in the Jinal phase of the P.L.A.F. onslaught on the Khe Sanh entreached camp beginning on July 5. That day, engaging enemy elements with the positions, the P.L.A.F. positions, the P.L.A.F. willing one humber of them, and bringing down three aircraft of them.

On the following day, July 6, at 8 a.m., the P.L.A.F. beat back another sally and intercepted enemy reinjorcements coming from Hills these battles, lighting against, great odds, the P.L.A.F. replused an enemy column uset of Hill "650" and shot down a helicopiter. Another attempt of the enemy to pain at midday with sever. losses. Some thirty bodies of dead to Some thirty bodies of dead G.I.'s were abandoned on the ground and were a few moments later "napalmed" by American on July 7. Beefed up] by two reinforcement companies, the American garrison on Hill (1689) staged a two-pronged sally, one in the northwest direction and the other to the southwest. Supported by articley, the P.L.A.F. intercepted both prongs and put out of action nearly too enemy troops inst between 6 and 7 a.m. ust between 6 and 7 a.m.

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soldiers! The enemy again

ground the bolies of about 50

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helicopters were sent to the

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of the P.L.A.F., in an at
tempt to recover the dad and

fighters gave them a sharp

ripost, showing down two

Then, on the night of July 7, they attacked the American entrenchments. In defiance of

up their formal attacks and magnetized simple the semi-defines any defence. Within less than three-quarters of a nour they state control of the morthwest sector rense were killed, nine radio transmitters and as many machingenia fell into the machingenia fell into the other sectors of the hill and called for massive artillery and called for massive artillery and the other sectors of the hill and called for massive artillery and the section of the control of the hill and called for massive artillery and the section of the hill. But all of them were counter attacks in a bid so counter attacks in a bid so counter attacks in a bid so counter attack in a bid so and the hill but all of them were counter attack in a bid so and the hill but all of them were of the P.L.A.R. subo were effectively the section of the properties of the section of the properties of the up their frontal attacks and in the action.

During July 8, despite continuous raids by American aircraft, the P.L.A.F. overan one after another all the remaining positions of the nemy on Hill "689" and brought down a Phantom fighter-bomber. The next day, July 5, at about 10 a.m., the Americans finally broke contact after having lost in five days 600 men put out of action and 16 air-craft and helicopters on this

> (After Giai Phong Press Agency)



P.L.A.F. fighters at Khe Sanh